

CANNON BUILDING 861 SILVER LAKE BLVD., SUITE 203 DOVER, DELAWARE 19904-2467

# STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

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SIONAL REGULATION

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES: BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, March 16, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware

Conference Room B, second floor of the Cannon Building

MINUTES APPROVED: May 18, 2011

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Mosch, Professional Member, President Michael Wollaston, Professional Member, Secretary Sharron Cirillo, Professional Member Judith Scarborough, Professional Member Gary Pippin, Public Member Carmetah Murray, Public Member

#### **DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL**

Daniel Stevenson, Deputy Attorney General Stacey Stewart, DAG for the State Nancy Fields, Administrative Specialist II Catherine Simon, Administrative Specialist II Roger Akin, Hearing Officer

#### **ALSO PRESENT**

Juli LaBadia, Court Reporter
John Elzufon, Elzufon Austin Reardon Tarlov & Mondell, P.A.
Jennings Hastings, Faw Casson
Sonya Bockman, Faw Casson (via phone)
Dana Rubenstein, Delaware Society of CPAs

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Mosch called the hearing to order at 9:15 a.m.

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## <u>Disciplinary Hearing – Sonya Bockman and Jennings Hastings</u>

Mr. Stevenson, Deputy Attorney General representing the Board of Accountancy stated the purpose for the hearing was based on a complaint filed with the Office of the Attorney General stating that Sonya Bockman and Jennings Hastings violated 24 <u>Del.C.</u> Section 117 (2) and (6).

Board members were introduced. Ms. Cirillo as the contact person for the Board was recused from the hearing.

Ms. Bockman was not present however, was available by phone.

Ms. Stewart, State Deputy Attorney General, and Mr. Elzufon, attorney for Ms. Bockman and Mr. Hastings both gave opening statements.

Ms. Stewart called her first witness. Stephen Nowak was sworn in, gave testimony and answered questions from the Board and council.

Ms. Stewart called her expert witness, Sharron Cirillo, who gave testimony and answered questions from council.

Ms. Stewart called Mr. Hastings who is a partner of the firm and Ms. Bockman's supervisor. He gave testimony and answered questions from council.

Ms. Stewart called Tammy Ordway. Ms. Ordway is a CPA and owner of Ordway Group. She gave testimony and answered questions from council.

Ms. Stewart gave a closing statement stating that violating 24 <u>DelC</u>. Section 117 (2) and (6) were grounds for unprofessional conduct for billing issues.

Mr. Elzufon requests that the charges be dismissed due to lack of evidence and no violations.

The Board went off the record and into deliberations.

A motion was made by Ms. Scarborough, seconded by Mr. Wollaston to go back on the record. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Mosch, seconded by Mr. Wollaston that the State did not meet burden of proof in the matter of Sonya Bockman. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Mosch, seconded by Mr. Wollaston that the State did not meet burden of proof in the matter of Jennings Hastings. The motion was unanimously carried.

The hearing closed.

Verbatim testimony was taken by a court reporter.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Mosch, seconded by Mr. Paretta to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned 1:00 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Catherine A. Simon Administrative Specialist II